

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

### **LISTING OF CLAIMS**

1. (withdrawn) A fastener for a pipe or the like, comprising a base portion, a pipe holding portion connected integrally with said base portion, and a stud engagement portion disposed in said base portion and adapted to engage with a stud standing on a workpiece such as an automobile body, wherein engaging of said stud engagement portion with said stud allows an elongated article such as a pipe held in said pipe holding portion to be mounted on said workpiece, said-fastener further comprising:

a support portion formed on said base portion and outside said stud engagement portion for supporting said stud engagement portion; and a thin connection portion disposed between said support portion and said stud engagement portion to connect them with each other in the vicinity of an inlet of a stud receiving hole formed in said stud engagement portion, said thin connection portion being formed to connect, to said support portion, the entire outer circumference of said stud engagement portion adjacent to said inlet, whereby said stud engagement portion is connected to said support portion by only said thin connection portion.

2. (withdrawn) A fastener as defined in claim 1, wherein said stud engagement portion includes a pair of opposed side walls each extending from said inlet in an insertion direction of said stud, and a bottom wall connecting the respective ends of said side walls with each other, and

said support portion includes a pair of opposed side walls outside the side walls of said stud engagement portion to surround said stud engagement portion, and a bottom wall apart from and outside the bottom wall of said stud engagement portion, and

wherein the bottom walls of said stud engagement portion and said support portion include a combination of a hole and a protrusion to be received in said hole, said combination serving to restrict the movement of said stud engagement portion relative to said support portion in a predetermined range.

3. (withdrawn) A fastener as defined in claim 2, wherein the bottom wall of said support portion is formed with a panel engagement portion on the side opposite to said stud engagement portion.

4. (withdrawn) A fastener as defined in claim 1, wherein said stud engagement portion is formed with a stopper for preventing said support portion from moving in the direction of getting out of said stud up to the extent of causing the destruction of said thin connection portion.

5. (previously presented) A fastener adaptable for engagement with a pipe, comprising:

a base portion;

a pipe holding portion connected integrally with said base portion;

a stud engagement portion provided at said base portion and adapted to engage with a stud standing on a workpiece such as an automobile body, wherein engagement of said stud engagement portion with said stud allows an elongated article such as a pipe held in said pipe holding portion to be mounted on said workpiece;

a support portion integrally formed with said base portion and outside said stud engagement portion for supporting said stud engagement portion;

a connection portion disposed between said support portion and said stud engagement portion to connect them with each other in the vicinity of an inlet of a stud receiving hole formed in said stud engagement portion, said connection portion being formed to connect, to said support portion, the entire outer circumference of said stud engagement portion adjacent to said inlet; and

a connection piece provided between said support portion and said stud engagement portion to connect them with each other at an area in a position extending from said inlet in a stud insertion direction, whereby said stud engagement portion is connected to said support portion by only both said connection portion and said connection piece.

6. (previously presented) The fastener as defined in claim 5, wherein said stud engagement portion includes a pair of opposed side walls each extending from said inlet in the stud insertion direction, and a bottom wall connecting a respective end of each of said side walls with each other, and

said support portion includes a pair of opposed side walls outside the side walls of said stud engagement portion to surround said stud engagement portion, and a bottom wall spaced apart from and outside the bottom wall of said stud engagement portion, and

wherein said connection piece connects the respective central regions of the bottom walls of said stud engagement portion and said support-portion with each other.

7. (previously presented) The fastener as defined in claim 6, wherein a thickness of the bottom wall of said stud engagement portion is less than a thickness of each of the side walls.

8. (previously presented) The fastener as defined in claim 6, wherein said wall of said support portion further comprises a panel engagement portion on a side opposite to said stud engagement portion.

9. (previously presented) The fastener as defined in claim 5, wherein said stud engagement portion further comprises a stopper for preventing said support portion from moving in a direction of release from said stud.

10. (previously presented) The fastener of Claim 5, wherein said stud engagement portion further comprises a plurality of engagement pawls configurable to engage said stud.

11. (previously presented) The fastener of Claim 10, wherein said engagement pawls further comprise two pairs of opposed engagement pawls.

12. (previously presented) The fastener of Claim 11, wherein said engagement pawls of a first one of said pairs are offset from said engagement pawls of a second one of said pairs in a height direction of said fastener to operably engage a thread pitch of said fastener.

13. canceled

14. (currently amended) The fastener of Claim 13 18, wherein the further comprising a plurality of engagement pawls arranged as substantially opposed of the pairs of opposed engagement pawls, are the pawls of each pair offset from each other in a height direction of the fastener to operably engage a thread pitch of the fastener.

15. (currently amended) The fastener of Claim 13 18, wherein the stud engagement ~~portion~~ member further comprises a pair of protrusions each ~~operable to engage~~ freely positioned within one of a pair of apertures in the support ~~portion~~ member, the apertures operably allowing limited motion of the stud engagement member.

16. (currently amended) The fastener of Claim 13 18, wherein the stud engagement ~~portion~~ member further comprises:

a pair of opposed side walls; and

a pair of opposed columns disposed between the opposed side walls.

17. (currently amended) The fastener of claim 16, wherein each of the side walls and the columns further include at least one stopper, wherein the stopper operably limits a displacement of the support ~~portion~~ member with respect to the stud engagement ~~portion~~ member.

18. (new) A fastener adaptable for engagement with at least one pipe, the fastener comprising:

a base having first and second pipe holding members integrally connected to the base and a male panel engagement member integrally connected to the base and facing oppositely from the first and second pipe holding members;

a support member integrally connected to the base between the first and second pipe holding members;

a stud engagement member positioned within the support member and integrally connected to the support member, the stud engagement member adapted to engage with a stud extending from a workpiece;

a connection portion completely surrounding the stud engagement member and operable to integrally join the stud engagement member to the support member adjacent to an inlet of the stud engagement member;

a wall of the stud engagement member positioned opposite from the inlet having a connection piece operable to integrally connect the wall to the support member; and

a connection region of the connection piece at least partially positioned in an aperture created in the panel engagement member;

wherein the stud engagement member is connected to the support member only by the connection portion and the connection piece.